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On the weakness or the Absence of Passions.

We have now finished the diseases, or morbid Actions of the passions. But we have not yet done with them. There is sometimes a deficiency of force, or a total suspension of their Operations. Persons who are thus affected, hate, and love no one. They are insensible to fear and grief. They have no Attachments or Resentments, and are alike strangers to pleasure & pain. I know a Gentleman in this city, who is remarkable for his strong ~~Attach~~ & ardent Affection for his wife & Children when his mind is in a sound state, but when afflicted

with the disorder I am now describing, loses this affection so entirely, that he once told me ~~that~~ he would not move out of his Chair to save them from being butchered before his eyes. Homer describes a similar perviation of the passions in Telemachus from a medicine given to him by Helen. The effects of it are happily described in the following lines.

"Tho' on a blazing ~~heaven~~ pile his parent lay.
"Or a loved Brother, groaned his life away.
"Or darling Son, oppressed by Ruffian force,
"fell breathless at his feet, a mangled Corse.

✓ I have read & heard of instances in which an extinction of parental love ~~takes~~ took place in sickness & just before death. Mr Rivet — see mem: Book. Wiss Jennings' case. see Com: place B 1836. A physician of great eminence who died a few years ago in London declared on his death bed, ~~was asked~~ that he never loved man, woman nor child in his life. — This character is not so rare a one in Society as is generally imagined. — Such persons by acting constantly under the cold influence of their Understand] ~~Some~~ while some men ~~so~~ are devoid of love, & incapable of attachments of all kinds — Others we see ~~are~~ devoid of fear — Others incapable of grief — and others, of Anger — and now & then we see men devoid of them all. The last description of ~~men~~ persons by acting constantly under the cold influence of their Understandings, generally pass this life with safety ~~and reputation~~. ~~But they are not men~~ and acquire the character of wise & perfect men — but they are mutilated beings. — ~~and~~ of such persons it was once happily said "There must be something radically wrong in the man, who never ~~cried~~ cursed"! —

"From ~~from~~, to ~~one~~ one im=
=passioned, & serene,
"The man entranced, would view
the ~~deathlesp~~ dreadful Scene. —
Odyssey Book iv. v. 315.

The Remedies for this ~~torpid~~ state of the passions should be suited to the state of the System. Tonics, particu=
=larly the Cold Bath, & exercise shd. be prescribed. Perhaps pain would be useful. a Salivation has once cured it. In the year 1798 I was consulted by Dr. Shippen in the Case of a Lady in Virginia who had borne a Child in a state of derangement. She discovered no affection for this Child, refused to give it suck, & finally denied it to be her own. we

prescribed a salivation for her. The remedy succeeded, for no sooner did the mercury touch her mouth, than her natural affection ~~to Dr Ba=~~ for her child ~~=zard informed us in a letter, dated~~ ~~is absolutely rabid~~ was instantly ex==cited, and continued ever afterwards. This information was communicated to us in a letter dated April 20. 1798 from Dr Bazard then a physician in Williamsburgh.

Here quit. I finish the history of the diseases of the mind. I feel as if I had been ~~afloat~~ sailing in a balloon without a pilot for ~~compass for~~ ~~several~~ 7 or 8 days. Whether I have descended to the earth with ~~all my limbs~~ my head, and limbs in a sound ~~a clear head, and sound limbs~~ ~~state, or not~~ shattered state, I must have

~ our present, and future inquiries upon it be crowned with success, they will extend the empire of ~~of~~ our Science to the ~~extent equal that will render it a~~ diminution or Destruction of the greatest evils that have ever afflicted the human race, for we shall have not only to cure the Diseases of the mind, but we shall be greatly assisted in curing the diseases of the body. — There is no disease which threatens life in which the mind is passive. By cultivating a knowledge of ~~the principles of Nature~~ its powerful ~~of the~~

to your determination. Should you find ~~the former compared, & the latter broken~~ them ~~it~~ in the latter situation, ascribe it to my having ven-
-tured into a region where no pilot nor compass ~~can dis~~ could be found to direct, or regulate my course. ~~The subject is in part new~~ The subject is a difficult one, but highly ~~a new one~~, ~~most of the observations~~ facts I ~~have delivered to you are the result of my own observations~~ I have promised important to a physician. Should ~~when they are rendered~~ more extensive, and ~~more correct~~ less imperfect, they shall, ~~respectably~~ to ~~a former promise~~, be communi-
-cated ~~to the public from the press~~.

I have only to add, that no part of ~~my~~ the theory of the diseases of the mind which I have delivered, or of their remedies, makes it ne-
-cessary to discarding the ancient doctrine

~~of the mind upon~~, ~~and of the~~ & its operations, ~~of~~ we may ~~Derive from of the powerful~~ direct them in such a manner as to derive great aid from them in the use of all our medicines.

death into the world of spirits, and a state of happiness or misery. The interval of time to the perception of the ~~same~~ mind will be exactly the same, whether this be the case, or whether we awake after a sleep of a thousand, or six thousand years. That time, in our consciousness of it, will be — — but a single moment.

Before I take leave of the subject of the ~~[illegible]~~ diseases of the mind, permit me to recommend the study of its faculties,

of the immateriality of the mind. I have contended only for the dependance of the mind for all its operations upon impressions made upon the ~~body~~ nerves, or in other words upon motion in the brain. This opinion does not contradict the idea of the mind possessing independant powers of thought & action when separated from the body. Whether this be the case, or not, is not for me to decide, nor ~~have I ever felt~~ do I feel any inquietude upon this subject. The principles of Christianity are no ways affected by either of ~~these~~ those ~~the two~~ opinions. ~~but by meta-~~ The comfortable doctrine of the resurrection, and a future state, ~~are~~ is alike true, whether we go to sleep in the grave, or enter immediately ~~into~~ after

opinions & diseases to your investigation.
The mind of ~~heard~~ man is ~~the most exalted work~~ a master peice of
of ~~the eternal Being up~~ ~~wi~~ divine power
and wisdom. Its destiny is — eternal — ~~it~~
It shall survive the ruins of Crowns, & thrones,
and globes and worlds — [we may therefore
with reverence ~~say to it~~ of ~~them~~ to it what an inspired
writer says to the Deity — after contem=
=plating the heavens & the earth: "They
shall perish — but thou shalt endure —
~~yea~~ they shall waxe old like a garment —
As a Vesture shalt thou change them,
& they shall be changed — but ~~they~~ thy
~~years shall~~ art the same, & thy years
shall have no end."]